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COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

AT RICHMOND, JANUARY 10, 2001

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

At the relation of the

STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

CASE NO. PUE010013

Ex Parte: In the matter of
establishing rules for
retail access

ORDER ESTABLISHING PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

On May 26, 2000, the Commission entered an order in Case No. PUE980812 adopting interim rules governing retail access pilot programs in the electric and natural gas industries. In that order, the Commission recognized that the rules were developed for pilot programs of limited scope and duration and could require alteration to accommodate full-scale retail choice and competition. The Commission stated that it would review and revise these rules as needed for the start and continuation of full retail choice.

The Virginia Electric Utility Restructuring Act directs the Commission to establish a transition schedule for retail choice, which will begin January 1, 2002. Therefore, it is necessary to proceed with the review and revision of the interim pilot rules in order to establish final Commission rules for the start of electric retail access. Final rules must be established

expeditiously so that supporting business practices and EDI standards can be defined and incumbent utilities and competitive service providers can modify and test information systems accordingly.

In furtherance of this goal, the Staff of the Commission has invited representatives of interested parties to participate in a work group to assist the Staff in developing proposed rules for the start of electric retail access in Virginia on January 1, 2002. In developing its proposal, the Staff will strongly consider the input and perspectives of work group participants, and will rely on experience gained through the operation of the pilots, giving due consideration to retail access rules adopted by neighboring states and national/regional uniform business practice efforts. Interested parties, including work group participants, will have an opportunity to comment and request a hearing on the Staff's proposed rules. Accordingly,

IT IS ORDERED THAT:

- (1) This case be docketed and assigned Case No. PUE010013.
- (2) The Commission Staff shall conduct an investigation and file with the Clerk an original and fifteen (15) copies of its report proposing retail access rules, with input from the work group, on or before March 6, 2001, and shall serve one (1) copy on all parties. The Division of Information Resources

shall forward the proposed rules to the Office of the Registrar of Regulations for publication in the Register of Regulations.

(3) On or before March 8, 2001, the Commission's Division of Information Resources shall make a downloadable version of the Staff's report and proposed rules available for access by the public at the Commission's website, <http://www.state.va.us/scc/caseinfo/orders.htm>. The Clerk of the Commission shall make a copy of the Staff's report and proposed rules available for public inspection in his office and provide a copy of the proposed rules, free of charge, in response to any written request for one.

(4) On or before April 3, 2001, interested parties shall file with the Clerk an original and fifteen (15) copies of any comments or requests for hearing on the Staff's Report and proposed rules, as well as any other comments pertinent to these proceedings.

(5) On or before February 2, 2001, the Commission's Division of Information Resources shall publish the following notice as classified advertising in newspapers of general circulation throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC OF A PROCEEDING TO
ADOPT RULES RELATING TO RETAIL ACCESS
CASE NO. PUE010013

On May 26, 2000, the Commission entered an order in Case No. PUE980812 adopting interim rules governing retail access pilot

programs in the electric and natural gas industries. In that order, the Commission recognized that the rules were developed for pilot programs of limited scope and duration and could require alteration to accommodate full-scale retail choice and competition. The Commission stated that it would review and revise these rules as needed for the start and continuation of full retail choice.

The Virginia Electric Utility Restructuring Act directs the Commission to establish a transition schedule for retail choice, which will begin January 1, 2002. Therefore, it is necessary to proceed with the review and revision of the interim pilot rules in order to establish final Commission rules for the start of electric retail access.

In furtherance of this goal, the Staff of the Commission has invited representatives of interested parties to participate in a work group to assist the Staff in developing proposed rules for the start of electric retail access in Virginia on January 1, 2002. In developing its proposal, the Staff will strongly consider the input and perspectives of work group participants, and will rely on experience gained through the operation of the pilots, giving due consideration to retail access rules adopted by neighboring states and national/regional uniform business practice efforts.

The Staff will file a report in this proceeding proposing retail access rules on or before March 6, 2001. Any person desiring to comment in writing or request a hearing on the Staff's proposed rules, or any other issue pertinent to these proceedings, may do so by directing such comments or requests for hearing on or before April 3, 2001, to the Clerk of the Commission, c/o Document Control Center,

P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218.
Comments and requests for hearing must refer
to Case No. PUE010013.

Interested parties may obtain a copy of
the interim rules governing retail access pilot
programs in the electric and natural gas
industries by visiting the Commission's
website,
<http://www.state.va.us/scc/caseinfo/orders.htm>,
or locating them at 20 VAC 5-311-10 through
20 VAC 5-311-60 in the Virginia Administrative
Code. The Staff's report with the proposed
rules will also be made available on the
Commission's website on and after March 8,
2001, and will be publicly available for
inspection in the Clerk's office. The Clerk's
office will provide a copy of the proposed
rules to any interested party, free of charge,
in response to any written request for one.
The proposed rules will also be forwarded to
the Office of the Registrar of Regulations for
publication in the Register of Regulations.

All written communications to the
Commission, except those relating to
participation in the work group, should be
directed to the Clerk, State Corporation
Commission, c/o Document Control Center,
P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218, and
should refer to Case No. PUE010013.

VIRGINIA STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

(6) Interested persons may be placed on the service list
in this case by directing a request in writing to Joel H. Peck,
Clerk, State Corporation Commission, c/o Document Control
Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218. Such requests
shall refer to Case No. PUE010013.

(7) This matter is continued for further orders of the
Commission.